WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for importing a data file into a performance evaluation system, comprising:

storing a plurality of user-defined data elements; and

5　　storing a user-defined configuration for the data file, the configuration operable to identify a data item in the data file and to map the data item to a data element.

2. The method of Claim 1, the configuration further

10　operable to associate the data item with a member of the performance evaluation system.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the data file is a delimited file.

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4. The method of Claim 1, if the data file is not a delimited file:

storing a preprocessor file operable to generate a delimited file from the data file; and

20　　using the preprocessor file to generate the delimited file from the data file.

6. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the configuration operable to identify a type for the data

25　item.

7. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the configuration operable to identify a format for the data item.

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8. A performance evaluation system, comprising:

a first database table operable to store a plurality of user-defined data elements; and

5 a second database table operable to store configuration information for importing a data file into the performance evaluation system, the configuration information operable to identify a data item in the data file and to map the data item to a data element.

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10 9. The performance evaluation system of Claim 8, further comprising a configuration including the configuration information and an identifier for associating the data item to a member of the performance evaluation system.

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